

# DECISION



## THE COMPTROLLER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20548

FILE: B-181627

DATE: AUG 27 1976

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### MATTER OF:

Fred H. Carley - Reconsideration of reimbursement for real estate expenses

### DIGEST:

1. Where employee's travel orders erroneously failed to authorize reimbursement for real estate expenses and were amended 4 months later correcting error, employee may not be granted extension of 1-year time limitation for real estate settlements because of error committed by officer or employee of Government.
2. Amendment to erroneously prepared travel orders does not extend statutory regulation's 1-year time limitation for real estate settlement date beyond initial 1-year period.
3. Exception to statutory regulation authorizing 1-year extension of time limitation for sale and purchase of residence is not applicable where employee enters into "Sales Authority" and "Purchase Agreement" with realtors within initial 1-year period.

This is in response to a request for reconsideration of our decision B-181627, January 24, 1975, in which we sustained our Claims Division's disallowance of Mr. Fred H. Carley's claim for real estate transaction expenses incurred in connection with a transfer between official duty stations.

The record indicates that Mr. Carley was transferred from Brookley Air Force Base, Alabama, to Eglin Air Force Base, Florida, with a reporting date of October 30, 1969. However, his original travel orders did not authorize reimbursement for real estate expenses, and it was not until March 9, 1970, that an amendment to those orders was issued authorizing reimbursement of such expenses.

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